

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 06752 201410Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07
TRSE-00 AF-10 /070 W
-----129071 201439Z /47

O R 201247Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1664
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOSOUTH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 6752

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PRESS PLAY ON APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR
SCHAUFELE

REF: ATHENS 6694

1. THE APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELE TO GREECE CONTINUES TO RECEIVE BROAD AND VARIED PRESS COVERAGE. WIDE ATTENTION IS ALLOTTED TO ALLEGATIONS THAT THE USG HAS DECIDED OR IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING CANCELLING THE APPOINTMENT. A GOG SPOKESMAN, ASKED YESTERDAY (JULY 19) TO COMMENT ON THE GENERAL SUBJECT, REPLIED OBLIQUELY THAT THE GOVERNMENT "IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO SERVE THE COUNTRY'S NATIONAL INTERESTS" AND THAT THE GOG HAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ATHENS 06752 201410Z

NOTHING TO ANNOUNCE AT THIS STAGE. OPPOSITION PASOK LEADER ANDREAS PAPANDREOU, MEANWHILE, ATTACKED THE GOG FOR NOT TAKING A STAND, DECLARED "UNACCEPTABLE" THE CLARIFICATIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND REFUSED TO CONSIDER THE SCHAUFELE CASE CLOSED BECAUSE OF "STATEMENTS WHICH BEG THE QUESTION."

2. MANY NEWSPAPERS OF VERY DIFFERENT ORIENTATION TODAY

CONCENTRATED ON WIDESPREAD REPORTS THAT USG MAY NOT IN THE END SEND AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA TO GREECE. PRO-GOVERNMENT ACROPOLIS, QUOTING "GOOD SOURCES" IN WASHINGTON, SAID THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WAS STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF NOT POSTING AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA BECAUSE THE STRONG GREEK REACTION TO HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SFRC WILL MAKE HIS MISSION IN GREECE TOO DIFFICULT AND BECAUSE HIS APPOINTMENT WOULD HARM US-GREEK RELATIONS. PRO-GOVERNMENT VRADYNI WAS MORE CATEGORICAL, STATING THAT ACCORDING TO "DEPARTMENT OF STATE SOURCES" THE USG HAD DECIDED TO CANCEL THE SCHAUFELA APPOINTMENT. LEFTISH TA NEA IN A STORY DATEDLINE WASHINGTON SAID IF THE USG INSISTED ON PUSHING THE APPOINTMENT, AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA WOULD BE ISOLATED, SINCE HE WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN GREECE. COMMUNIST (KKE-INTERIOR) AVGHI REFERRED TO "JOURNALISTIC INFORMATION FROM WASHINGTON" AS RECALLING RUMORS OF A RIFT BETWEEN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA, WHICH TOGETHER WITH THE SFRC TESTIMONY LEADS TO THE IMPRESSION THAT AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA WILL NOT COME TO ATHENS. THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ATHENS DAILY POST ACCOUNT, CITING "WELL INFORMED WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN ATHENS," CLAIMED OUTRIGHT THAT THE USG HAD DECIDED NOT TO APPOINT AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA AS THE NEW ENVOY BECAUSE OF THE SHARP REACTION IN ATHENS. MANY VERSIONS POINTED OUT THAT A STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT (FOLLOWING THE DEBRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR KUBISCH) WAS EXPECTED MOMENTARILY WHICH WOULD UNDERLINE THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE ANY CHANGE IN US POLICY TOWARDS THE AEGEAN AREA OF THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, AND THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ATHENS 06752 201410Z

AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA WOULD NOT BE SENT TO GREECE.

3. INDEPENDENT KATHIMERINI COVERAGE OF THE MATTER WAS BASED ON AN ARTICLE BY LESLIE FINER WHICH RECOUNTED THE SURPRISE IN WASHINGTON AT THE REACTION IN GREECE, SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S POSITION WOULD BECOME KNOWN AFTER AMBASSADOR KUBISCH'S DEBRIEFING AND CONCLUDED THAT THE RUCKUS WOULD NOT, HOWEVER, BLOCK AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA'S COMING TO ATHENS. COMMUNIST (KKE-EXTERIOR) RIZOSPASTIS PREDICTED THAT THE SOLUTION WHICH HAD BEEN AGREED UPON WOULD BE FOR A NEW STATEMENT ON THE AEGEAN TO BE MADE SOON BY THE USG AND PREDICTED AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELA WOULD NOT ARRIVE AUGUST 7.

4. A FEW NEWSPAPERS GAVE THE ISSUE LIGHT TREATMENT SUCH AS PRO-GOVERNMENT APOYEVMATINI AND EXTREME RIGHT ELEFHEROS COSMOS. TO VIMA'S PLAY ON DEVELOPMENTS, SURPRISINGLY, WAS VERY LOW-KEY AND WAS FOLDED INTO A BROADER ARTICLE COVERING PASOK LEADER PAPANDREOU'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, TO VIMA'S EDITORIAL CALLED FOR A NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR OTHER THAN SCHAUFELA, WHO, IF HE CAME, THE PAPER WARNED, WOULD BE OSTRACIZED BY THE GREEK PEOPLE. ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ESTIA'S EDITORIAL ENDORSED TO VIMA'S POSITION YESTERDAY TO THE EFFECT THAT DEVELOPMENTS

HAD MADE IT UNWISE TO SIGN A US-GREEK BASES AGREEMENT. FINALLY,
MORE CAUSTIC CARTOONS HAVE APPEARED IN A NUMBER OF PAPERS
INDICATING THAT THE GREEK PEOPLE ARE PREPARING A VERY UNFRIENDLY
RECEPTION FOR AMBASSADOR SCHAUFELE WHEN HE ARRIVES.

MILLS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ATHENS06752
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770257-1046
Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770736/aaaabepw.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 85f46d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ATHENS 6694
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1797314
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUED PRESS PLAY ON APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFEL
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/85f46d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009